



Montana Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

MEMORANDUM

To: See Distribution
From: Mark Wissinger, P.E.
Construction Engineer
Date: June 29th, 2006
Subject: Supplemental Specification Revision: 705.01.2 Wood Posts and Blockouts and 705.03.1 Wood Treatment

The Construction Administration Services Bureau is proposing revisions to Standard Specifications, 705.01.2 Wood Posts and Blockouts and 705.03.1 Wood Treatment. Following the Standard Specification Revision Process outlined in the Construction Engineer's Memorandum dated January 9, 2002 the following information is provided.

1. Standard Specifications: 705.01.2 Wood Posts and Blockouts and 705.03.1 Wood Treatment will be modified.
2. The Proposed Draft of the changes is attached along with this memorandum.
3. Revision to the Standard Specification is needed to align MDT standards with current AWP standards.
4. Those impacted by the change include:
 - Materials Timber Inspectors
 - Suppliers
5. The following individuals were consulted and/or involved in developing the proposed revisions:
 - Anson Moffett – Quality Control Engineer
 - Pat Hoy – Timber Inspector

*It is requested that comments on **the proposed revisions only**, be returned to the mdtspecifications@mt.gov no later than July 31st, 2006.*

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705.01.2 Wood Posts and Blockouts

Furnish wood posts and blockouts made from Douglas fir, Hemlock, Ponderosa Pine, Spruce, Larch, or Lodgepole pine. Furnish posts that are straight, sound, free from defects and meet the dimensions specified in the contract.

Meet the Western Wood Products Association requirements, or equivalent grading rules, all of which must meet ASTM D 245.

Ensure the posts surfaces do not vary more than 1 inch (25 mm) from a straight line connecting the ends. Saw the wood posts before treating. Ensure the wood posts are seasoned to accept the specified treatment. Do not paint posts unless specified.

Other acceptable blockouts may be manufactured from steel, recycled plastic, and recycled plastic with wood fibers provided information is furnished that they meet NCHRP 350 requirements for the application, i.e., for use with wood, concrete or steel guard rail posts.

Use only one type of blockout in each run of guardrail.

Deleted: . Furnish wood posts and blocks treated with a minimum 5 percent by weight pentachlorophenol solution or Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA), Type B or C, or Ammoniacal Copper Arsenate (ACA) meeting AWPA standards. The minimum penetration depth is 1/2-inch (13 mm).

705.03 WOOD TREATMENT AND PAINTING**705.03.1 Wood Treatment**

Furnish wood posts and blocks pressure treated meeting Subsection 706.04, with a five percent by weight pentachlorophenol solution Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA), Type B or C, or Ammoniacal Copper Arsenate (ACA) [or Copper Naphthenate \(CuN\)](#) meeting AWPA standards. Chamfer and perform other required framing and boring of bolt holes before post treating. Plug drill holes used for determining preservative penetration depth with tight fitting treated wood plugs.

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[Treat injuries, cuts, and holes in posts after treatment with three applications of copper naphthenate solution containing a minimum two percent copper metal or with Chromate Copper Arsenate \(CCA\) meeting AWPA M4 requirements.](#)

Deleted: The requirements of Subsection 706.04.2 for incising, do not apply to Ponderosa pine sawn wood posts.